(e) whether any alternate steps of funding tobacco farmers have been worked out; and

(f) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) to (f) In the absence of any indication on the source or nature of restrictions, the purpose of the Expert Committee and the direction of the proposed legislation, the question of Government and Tobacco Board being less than alert in protecting the interests of tobacco farmers against any hasty legislation and funding of the tobacco growers, does not arise.

Losses caused to US Motion Picture Industry

5210. SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the US Government has found faults with India's Intellectual Property Protection Regime, especially its enforcement in the context of alleged losses caused to the US Motion Picture Industry due to audio visual piracy;

(b) if so, the details of the US protest and criticism, indicating and annual losses alleged to have been caused to the US industry; and

(c) Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) According to the National Trade Estimate (NTE) 2000 Report by the United States Trade Representative (USTR) audio visual piracy allegedly continues to be a significant problem in India. This Report has also alleged that US industry representatives estimate annual losses to the US Motion Picture Industry due to audio visual piracy to be US $66 million.

(c) India's copyright law fully provides for adequate administrative, civil and criminal procedures and remedies for enforcement of copyrights and is fully compatible with India's multilateral obligations under the WTO agreement on Trade Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights.